



Application of: Scott A. Rice

Application Serial No.: 10/038,235

Filed: October 19, 2001

For: METAL WOOD GOLF CLUB HEAD

Group Art Unit: 3711

Examiner: Thanh P. Duong

Attorney Docket No. C01-02

Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. 1.132

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Scott A. Rice declares that:

1. He is the inventor of and is familiar with the present U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/038,235 filed October 19, 2001 in the name of Scott A. Rice and entitled METAL WOOD GOLF CLUB HEAD and is familiar with the Official Action dated January 30, 2003 issued therein and with the prior art references cited in the Official Action, including Ezawa et al. (6,334,817), Noble et al. (5,954,596), Kosmatka (6,338,683), Masghati et al. (4,471,961), Sun (5,219,408) and Gallaway (6,354,962).

2. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1990, and a Masters of Public Administration Degree in 1991, both from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. He has been employed at the Acushnet Company since January 1997. His primary area of expertise is the design and development of golf club equipment. He has been primarily responsible and/or part of the development team for several generations of golf club equipment, including the King Cobra titanium metalwoods (1998), King Cobra Tour-JG irons (1998), King Cobra Gravity Back drivers and fairway woods (1999), Titleist 975J-VS and 975L-FE drivers (2000), King Cobra SS drivers (2001-2002), and King Cobra SS fairway woods (2002). He is co-inventor of several patents, and has intimate knowledge of the research, technology, design, development, testing, and manufacturing processes relating to golf club equipment.

3. Under his direction and control, Cobra® Golf, a division of Acushnet Company, redesigned their King Cobra driver and developed the King Cobra SS™ 350 with a thin oval Beta Titanium Insert and surrounding it by an even thinner titanium ring in order to generate the maximum allowable energy transfer over a large area. The key inventive concepts are the oval insert and a heel weight pad. Locating the weight pad in the heel/skirt area, directly in line with the intersection point of the hosel axis and sole, helped correct slice tendencies and also produced a higher ball trajectory.

4. The King Cobra SS™ 350, using the design concepts of his present invention, produced sales in 2002 in units sold that were 444% greater than the prior year of 2001. This remarkable turn-around is directly attributed to the inventive concepts listed in the above patent application.

In addition, the year 2002 brought accolades for the new King Cobra SS 350 from all over the world. The December 14, 2002, issue of Golfweek, one of the most respected magazines in the golf community, listed their annual "Golfweek's picks for best new equipment of the year". On page 43, they state that the new King Cobra was "Easily voted Driver of the Year". Also, the Cobra fairway woods were selected as the best fairway woods, and they are included in the Applicant's claims.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/7/03



Scott A. Rice